CUBAN-MANAGED STORES BOMBED

T-P 9-20-68

Punishing Apathy, Says Miami Exile Group

By THEODORE A. EDIGER

MIAMI, Fla. (AP) — Terror bombers, complaining of revolutionary apathy among Cuban exiles, blasted a string of Cuban-operated stores in Miami's Little Havana section Thursday.

"We will punish all who deserve it," proclaimed a secret exile group that said it caused the explosion.

It was the 28th Latin-flavored Greater Miami bombing incident reported to police this year. Exiles say some other went unreported.

The blast damaged a building vacated recently by a militant anti-Castro organization, Second Front-Alpha 66. No injuries were reported.

A news release signed "Revolutionary Cellular Organization" called the bombing "Operation Punishment." The statement, found under the door of a Spanish-language radio station several hours after the predawn explosion, promised punishment to others "in the face of the apathy that this exiledom is suffering."

The organization, one of several secret exile terrorist bands operating in Miami, criticized "those who place their personal interests above activity for liberation of our country."

But Lt. Jay Golden of the Miami police department said it appeared that 95 per cent of the recent terrorism had been on a pattern of "extortion rather than political or patriotic motives."

Damaged in the Thursday blast were a tobacco company, a jewelry store not yet open for business, a vacant store and a restaurant called La Edquina de Tejas (Corner of Texas). Police said the explosive was equivalent to a pound of dynamite.